

SENATOR ASHFORD:      Thank you, Mr. President and members. This bill, as you may recall, relates to the authority for judges to hold summary jury trials as a way of expediting court cases and encouraging settlement. I have a few amendments that were brought to my attention by the district court judges. The first amendment would be to provide that this process can only be used in the district courts of the state; secondarily, that the jurors selected for the summary jury trial be selected from the existing jury lists that are currently being used by the district court; also, thirdly, that the parties and the judge may agree to determine the length of the summary jury trial; and, fourthly, that the fourth amendment simply changes a portion of the bill which overexcluded evidence from the actual trial of the matter, if a settlement is not reached at the summary stage. So these are basically amendments, Mr. President, which have been brought to my attention by the district court judges and other lawyers, so I would move those amendments at this time.

PRESIDENT: Thank you. Any further discussion? If not, the question is the adoption of the Ashford amendments. All those in favor vote aye, opposed nay. Record, Mr. Clerk, please.

CLERK: 25 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on adoption of the amendment offered by Senator Ashford.

PRESIDENT: The Ashford amendment is adopted. Anything further on the bill, Mr. Clerk?

CLERK: Nothing further on the bill, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Senator Moore, please.

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. President, I move LB 225 be advanced.

PRESIDENT: You have heard the motion. All in favor say aye. Opposed nay. It is advanced. LB 187, please.

CLERK: 187, Senator, I have E & R amendments pending.

PRESIDENT: Senator Moore.

SENATOR MOORE: Mr. President, I move the E & R amendments to LB 187 be adopted.

PRESIDENT: You have heard the motion. All in favor say aye.